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August 10, 1999

Alice Slater
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Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)
Food and Drug Administration
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061
Rockville MD 20852

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RE: 98N-1230, 96P-0418, 97P-0197 - Forced Molting

Dear Sir/Madam:

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) must immediately ban the forced molting of laying hens. Forced molting, the practice of intentionally starving hens for up to 14 days in order to manipulate egg production, is not only cruel to the animals, it can be life-threatening to humans since it is a primary cause of infectious diseases such as Salmonella enteritidis in hens, eggs and consumers.

The FDA has the jurisdiction to ban farm practices that can be deadly to humans, and must take immediate action to ban forced molting. This would help reduce egg borne diseases.

Sincerely,

Alice Slater
President

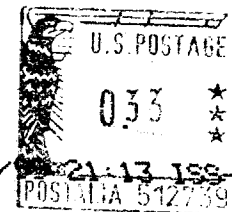
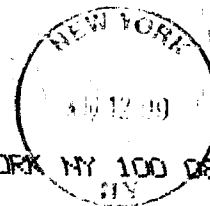
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GRACE

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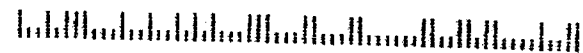
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CROSS FILE SHEET

File Number: 98N-1230/ C 227

See File Number: 97P-0197/ C 228
96P-0418/ C 227